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PEACE NEWS

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No. 895 August 21 1953 FOURPENCE (U.S. 5 cents)

RECALL PARLIAMENT NOW

Doubts about Korea must be dispelled

By Emrys Hughes, MP

SHOULD Parliament be recalled for the purpose of discussing the commitments that have been entered into by the Government in case the Korean Truce is broken and the futile war there started all over again?

I am certainly in favour of this course.

Not that it would mean the defeat of the Government on this issue, but it would certainly show that the opposition is vigilant and is concerned about what is happening in the world although Parliament is on holiday. And it would help to show the USA Government and public opinion in USA that British public opinion is dead against any renewal of the war and its extension into China.

LABOUR PARTY'S POSITION

The Labour Party at any rate knows where it stands on this issue. In their letter to the Times on August 12, Patrick Gordon Walker and Douglas Jay, two ex-ministers who are by no means Left-wing made a strong protest against the "Government Blunder" in signing their latest declaration on Korea.

If two moderate Labour M.P.s hold these views and are perturbed because as they say Britain is apparently committed to the view that such an extension of hostilities—if renewed—is probable" then it can be certain that the rest of the Labour Party is also concerned and has every reason to be so, especially in view of the fact that Parliament was allowed to go on holiday without any indication having been made of the Government's intention.

THE TIMES IS WORRIED

The same day that it published this letter the Times itself came out with an outspoken leading article in which it said:

"It may be trusted that the Truce will be kept and that the alternatives will not arise; but to look no further than the present, the British Government have put themselves on a slippery slope from which it will be hard for them to retrieve their proper position which should be based—without any equivocation—on accepted lines of British policy in the Far East.

"Labour MPs as a letter on this page today shows, are affronted and suspicious because the Government kept the declaration secret throughout the Foreign Affairs debate at the end of the last session and did not let the opposition leaders know of it, even in confidence, until afterwards. No doubt more will be heard about that part of the affair when Parliament reassembles.

"Many MPs may still fear that a commitment was entered into, but the real charge against the Government is that they lent their name to something in which they really did not believe and which remains dangerous and misleading."

TIME TO SIT UP

Well, when the Times characterises the Government's policy as "dangerous and misleading" it is time that the British public began to take notice.

That is why Parliament should be recalled so that the Government and our friends across the Atlantic should be informed beyond a shadow of doubt that we are not going to be dragged into a war with China at the tails of Mr. Syngman Rhee and Mr. Foster Dulles.

In retrospect I wonder how many Labour MPs can still convince themselves that we were justified in going into Korea?

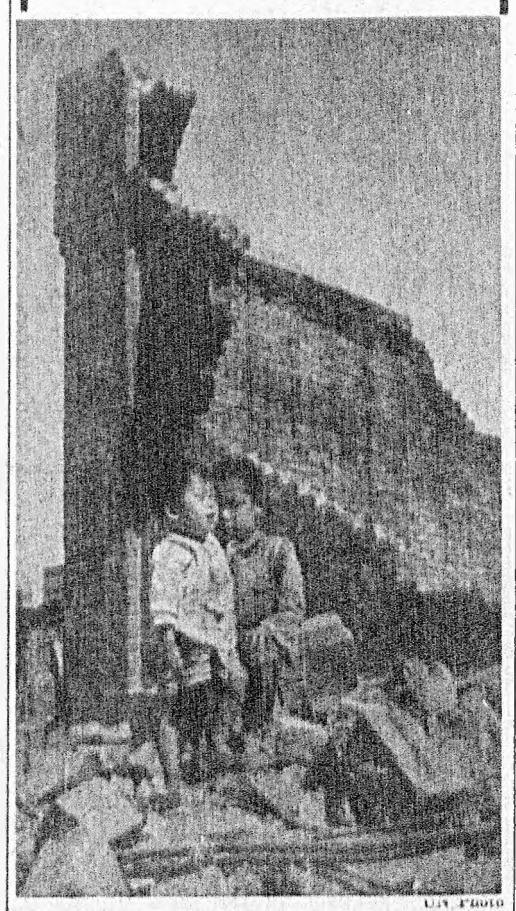
Anybody who had given a moment's thought as to what was involved should have realised that we were risking the possibility of a war with China.

Now Labour MPs rule out a war with China. Not even those who swear by "collective security" are prepared for this. Which is, of course, all to the good.

CHINA WAR FUTILE

For a war against China waged by the United Nations would be as futile and as destructive as any other war. Therefore the United Nations should not have the power to go into war with China. Indeed all that would need to be done to make it from the point of view an illegal war would be for Britain and Russia to veto it in the Security Council.

BASE KOREA RELIEF ON NEED NOT POLITICS



ORPHANS OF INCHON U.N. Photo

THE London Centre of the Congress of Peoples Against Imperialism has called upon the United Nations Assembly to ensure that all relief measures and economic reconstruction sponsored by it in Korea shall be available to all Koreans and shall be allocated on the basis of need and not of political affiliations or geographical location.

In a statement issued this week the Congress also urges that no solution to the problem of Korea be entertained untill the conditions for a free decision by the whole Korean people have been established.

NIGERIAN LEADERS TO SPEAK IN LONDON

TWO leading Nigerian figures, Dr. N. Azikiwe of the National Council for Nigeria and the Cameroons, and Mr. O. Awolowo of the Action Group, will speak at a public meeting in London on Tuesday, August 25, about the future of their country.

The meeting, which will be held at the Holborn Hall, Grays Inn Rd., will be under the Chairmanship of Mr. Fenner Brockway M.P.

Dr. Azikiwe and Mr. O. Awolowo are in London for the Conference on the Nigerian Constitution.

ROYAL PROTECTION

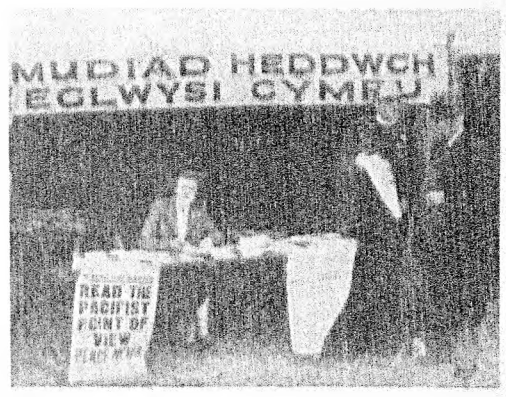
Many Africans are quite convinced that because Pritt is called a Queen's Counsel, he must have been sent out (to Kenya) personally by the Queen in order to protect them from the policies of Mr. Oliver Lyttelton.

—*Forward, August 8, 1953.*

Quaker aid for Greece

THE Friends Service Council sent two tons of clothing and footwear to the World Council of Churches in Athens last Tuesday (August 18) for the victims of the Greek earthquakes. It so happened that the Rev. H. R. Hawley, Chairman of the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief, had arranged to travel to Greece by a ship leaving Swansea on that date, and he was able to persuade the shipping authorities to let the two tons go freight free.

PEACE TENT



Rev. E. Ffestin Williams, North Wales Secretary to the Fellowship of Reconciliation and Miss J. Edwards of Aberystwyth on duty at the Peace Tent which is erected annually at the National and International Eisteddfods in Wales. This year the Tent was set up at Rhyl where the picture was taken. Literature was distributed and conversations held. Next year's Peace Tent will be at Ystradgynlais.

Council of Europe declares

COMPULSORY LABOUR CONTRARY TO HUMAN RIGHTS CONVENTION

"NO one shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labour." So runs part of one of the articles of the Human Rights Convention of the Council of Europe. The last signature has this week been affixed to the ratification of this Convention. Upon the tenth ratification the Convention came into operation.

The ten nations who ratified are therefore now committed to the "collective enforcement of the rights stated in the Universal Declaration of the United Nations."

A European Court of Justice has been set up to interpret the Convention. All parties agree to accept and act upon the verdict of the Court.

Individuals may appeal

The Convention guarantees the rights of expression, of freedom of assembly, security against torture and degrading punishment, protection against enslavement.

Not only member States but also individuals may appeal to the court in certain circumstances if it is considered that a violation of the Convention has been committed or tolerated.

Britain was the first nation to ratify the Convention. Luxembourg will be the last. Other nations signatory to the Convention are: Denmark, West Germany, Greece, Iceland, Norway, Ireland, The Saar, and Sweden.

Application to Colonies

The Convention will not apply to Colonial or dependent territories of the ratifying powers unless they wish it to. Denmark is the only nation so far which has expressed a desire that the terms of the Convention shall apply to a dependent territory, in this case Greenland.

Except . .

The Convention is however, not quite as revolutionary as it seems. Section three of Article Four which deals with compulsory labour says:

"For the purpose of this Article the term 'forced or compulsory labour' shall not include: (inter alia) any service of a military character or, in case of conscientious objectors in countries where they are recognised, service exacted instead of compulsory military service."

Berliner's View on Food Gifts

By Heinz Kraschutzki

PEACE NEWS was right in stating that the American food for the people of Eastern Germany was not given out of a generous heart alone. Much as we appreciate the genuine and admirable generosity out of which Americans, as private persons, helped people in this country, we are less sure about the motives of the American government.

Everybody in Berlin remembers the extremely cold winter of 1946/47. Day by day the papers published lists of people who had died of starvation and cold. The woods round Berlin were plundered and cut down during the night by people who wanted to survive; no wooden bench in public parks was spared; any available piece of wood went to the kitchens and stoves of hungry people. At that time it was still not difficult to send coal from the Ruhr to Berlin by train; but the slogan that only a dead German was a good German was not quite forgotten and still had its influence. There was no money to send the coal.

Two years later, when the so-called blockade by the Russians started, there was plenty of money to send the coal by planes, which is somewhat more expensive. The Germans were heroes and had to be saved at any cost (and the Russians would resent the many planes roaring over their zone and demonstrating the strength of the US air-forces).

It is possible that a good many of the inhabitants of the Eastern Zone, who generally receive little news from the West, believe that the actual stream of food parcels to Berlin is a sign of generosity. There will be few to think so in the Eastern Sector of Berlin.

Nevertheless they are glad to accept the gift, not only because people as a whole, like to get things they have not to pay for. We should not in the least deny that many people, even most of the inhabitants of the Eastern Zone and Sector, have more sympathy for the West than for the East and take it as a sign that they are not forgotten.

The Russians want to show that they are not so destitute, either of food or good instincts; so they begin to send food from their side. Well, if the cold war takes to new means—if the two competitors from now on try to outrival each other by sending food and sweets, we, the people, do not mind!

U.S. PACIFISTS ARRESTED

Last month six pacifists were arrested in Philadelphia as they conducted a street meeting for peace under the sponsorship of the Philadelphia Fellowship of Reconciliation, reports The Peacemaker. Charles Walker, co-ordinator of Peacemakers, and Howard Hallam of the FOR were leaders of the meeting. Other members participating were the American Friends Service Committee sponsored Internes-in-Industry, and Vail Palmer, pacifist draft resister, and his wife, Candida.

The meeting, held at 18th Street and Walnut, went smoothly for a half hour or so until the police came along and asked for a permit. The group had no permit, and showed the police a copy of the City Solicitor's statement that no permit was required. Nevertheless Walker and Hallman were arrested on charges of "meeting without a permit"; the charges were later changed to "breach of the peace."

Bystanders too

After taking the two leaders to jail the police returned to find the crowd still assembled and arrested one of the interns who refused to "move on" when ordered. Three others upheld her stand and they were all arrested. Two bystanders asked why the group was ordered to disperse and were arrested to round out the evening. All were held overnight, since it was after midnight before charges were filled out against them.

Vail and Candida Palmer called attorney Walter Longstreth, who defended the group in court next morning. But the magistrate levied a fine of five dollars and costs or five days to each of the eight.

The case is being appealed with the American Civil Liberties Union assisting.

The next night the War Resisters League sponsored a protest meeting at the same spot, picketing with signs marked "DANGER" and passing out leaflets headed "Danger! Watch what you say on this corner." The leaflets told the story of the previous evening and Supreme Court Decision (Hague vs. CIO,307 U.S. 496 ct. 511) on the right to hold a street meeting without permit.

Bystanders both evenings expressed support and sympathy.

Registration for National Service

THE next registration takes place on Saturday, September 5, when young men born between October 1, and December 31, 1935, are required to register for National Service. The Central Board for Conscientious Objectors, 6 Endsleigh St., London, W.C.1., would be glad to supply information about the procedure to any young man who intends to register as a conscientious objector.

PEACE NEWS

3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4
STAmford Hill 2262 (three lines)

21st August, 1953

DESTROYING UN

THE UN General Assembly began its meeting on Monday. Its main business is to make arrangements for the political conference to deal with the peaceful settlement of the Korean Question, "etc."

There has been much discussion as to what important issues may be included in that question-begging term "etc.", the obvious one being whether it might include the situation of China in relation to the United Nations. The biggest issue, however, is whether in any significant sense there is to be a continued existence for the United Nations.

The theoretical relationship that has existed between the UN and the USA since the beginning of the Korean war has been that the USA was just one of the sixteen states that were lending active assistance in carrying out the policy of the United Nations after North Korea had been declared an aggressor. As the United States was the most active of the participating nations its Government was asked to exercise military command on behalf of the United Nations and its Commander in Korea (latterly General Mark Clark) in acting on behalf of his Government was also acting on behalf of the United Nations and thus exercised full authority over all the forces cooperating in the implementation of UN policy.

★

That has been the theory. It has always seemed rather thin to anybody who was disposed to scrutinise it. Whatever virtues the US Government may have had in carrying out the military policy of UN in Korea it was, among the non-Communist powers, next to the Government of Chiang Kai-shek, the least fitted to act as an impartial instrument of UN policy. The war it had asked the UN to ask it to fight was much too closely linked up with the war it was already disposed to fight on its own volition.

Having been able to make this use of UN as an instrument of American policy the United States Government has no further use for it except as a sub-branch to the State Department. The USA finds a remarkable variety of ways in which to emphasise this.

Mr. Dulles agrees with Dr. Rhee, but without regard to his associates in UN, that the American representatives will accompany the South Korean representatives in walking out of the political conference arranged by the UN Assembly if those with whom negotiations are to be conducted do not display sufficient readiness to agree to what is desired of them.

Then, again without any regard for the views of UN the United States enters into a defence treaty with the Government of South Korea (envisaging as an objective a unified and independent Korea) and makes provision for the stationing of American forces in South Korea and for American air-bases. It should logically now be open for either China or Russia or both to enter into a defence treaty with the Government of North Korea (equally envisaging a unified and independent Korea) and making provision for the stationing of their troops and bases in North Korea.

Dr. Rhee has however intimated that he will in nowise accept this, and it is an indication of the extent to which it is coming to be assumed that the UN is an association against Communism that nobody expects the North Koreans to announce that they will not tolerate the stationing of American troops in South Korea.

★

Even in the more welcome activities relating to the aid to be given in reconstructing Korea the USA has decided that it will prefer not to work with the United Nations agency set up for the purpose but that its assistance shall be given direct and without UN intervention. This is of course wholly consonant with United States policy in other fields where assistance is to be given to countries in need of development: the USA has long since preferred to develop Mutual Security Aid in place of aid to be given through the UN special agencies.

The worst of the acts and pronouncements immediately leading up to and following the armistice is that they all take for granted, despite Mr. Butler's declaration to the contrary, that the sixteen nations have been and are engaged in anti-Communist activity. No need is felt nowadays to respect the fiction that one aggression is as bad as another from the standpoint of UN.

The 16-nations declaration containing the threat of action against North Korea and China if the armistice is broken by a new act of aggression has no counterpart in relation to the much-announced peace-breaking actions of President Rhee who makes it clear that he proposes to attack the North when the political Conference has arrived at a settlement, or after 90 days from the opening of the conference, whichever is earlier.

If UN is to live, whatever may be the outcome of the political conference, it is necessary that some decisions shall be reached and some declaration made which shall establish that it is not accepted that the machinery of UN is just a junior partner to the State Department and the Pentagon.

Russian defence charges

THERE is always a good deal of reticence in the British Press regarding the actual amounts of money devoted to armaments by Russia. We give below, therefore, the amounts allocated by Russia to "defence" for the last five years in Roubles and Sterling.

It will be seen that there have been progressive increases from 1949 to 1952 and that this year shows the first reduction—a reduction of 3.2%.

Readers may like to keep these figures by them to measure against the "defence" allocations of Great Britain and the USA.

	Roubles	£
1949	79,200,000,000	7,071,428,571
1950	82,900,000,000	7,401,785,713
1951	96,400,000,000	8,607,142,857
1952	113,800,000,000	10,160,714,285
1953	110,200,000,000	9,839,285,714

11.2 *roubles*: £1

It is necessary to bear in mind that certain expenses, bracketed under the military expenditures in this country are likely to be shown under industrial and construction headings in Russia, so that the two sets of figures are not strictly comparable.

Exchange of Ambassadors with China

ONE thing the British Government could do to clarify its position in advance of the consideration of the position of China in relation to UN representation is to implement fully the British recognition of the Peking Government. Early in 1950 Great Britain withdrew support from Chiang Kai-shek and recognised the Mao Government which was informed that the British Government was ready to establish diplomatic relations "on a basis of equality, mutual benefit, and a mutual respect for territory and sovereignty" and that there would be an exchange of ambassadors. Negotiations on this last point were protracted because the Peking Government took exception to the British maintenance of consular representation with Formosa. This point was in a fair way to being cleared up when the Macarthur push to the Yalu, the Chinese crossing of the river and the UN declaration that the Peking Government thus became an aggressor destroyed the chance of bringing this matter to a conclusion.

It is very desirable that any steps open shall be taken now to emphasise that the US policy in relation to China is not that of Great Britain and the early arrangement of an exchange of ambassadors offers a useful possibility.

An unwelcome Note on Germany

THE Foreign Ministers at Washington sought, among other precautions regarding the discussion of the German problem, to see that the West German elections were safely over and Dr. Adenauer's Government returned before discussions were entered upon, and it seemed at first as if the Russian Government, whatever it had to say on a number of aspects of the Western approach to the subject, was quietly prepared to accept this strategic deferment.

This proves, however, not to be so. If there is not to be a discussion in a conference then there can be one by publicised communications. So the Russian Government sends a further note, urging that it is the Western Governments that are acting contrary to the interests of the German people in delaying a settlement, and advancing a good deal of argument on the matter.

The Western governments can hardly delay replying to this communication until the election is over and it may safely be assumed that the reply when it comes will produce a prompt rejoinder from Russia in which her conception

BEHIND THE NEWS

of the matters at issue will be further set out.

In the note sent last Sunday the following paragraph is likely to produce assent from many of the West German population:

"On the basis of the "Bonn Convention," West Germany is to remain in the condition of a dependent State subordinated to the three Powers, who in spite of a nominal lifting of the occupation statute leave their troops on West German territory, with unlimited rights for the purpose of meddling in the interior affairs of West Germany, through which the shackling of the West German population under the conditions of a modified occupation statute will remain for a long time."

Contradiction by Clarification

THE Downing Street statement following upon the issue of the 16-nation declaration has done something to modify the British commitment that this document implied by its very inconsistency with the phraseology of the declaration.

It pointed out that the sixteen nations concerned had agreed upon a statement of this kind as early as January, 1952, when the British Prime Minister addressed the US Congress on the subject, and that the Labour Government had agreed that in certain circumstances they would be ready to be associated with military action not confined to Korea. Then it was urged that President Syngman Rhee's behaviour in defiance of UN decisions had produced a new factor in the situation that called for a statement which would "emphasise that the declaration was concerned solely with what we may term an 'unprovoked' breach of the armistice by the Communists."

Now the 16-nations declaration does nothing to make this point clear, let alone emphasize it, but the new statement from this very fact goes a good way to removing the special danger involved in the declaration. Of course there is always the possibility that if the armistice breaks down it can be made to appear for Western consumption that the Chinese were responsible for the breach, but President Rhee's present candour in announcing his intentions will make it very difficult to maintain that there has been an absence of provocation.

The incident is a plain indication that a public outcry can prevent the too flagrant subordination of British views to American policy.

French strikes and Indo-China

WHATEVER may be the outcome of the French strikes they should bring a new factor into the discussions at the UN Assembly and possibly at the political conference to deal with Korea, etc,

Mr. Dulles has more than once suggested that it would be a breach of faith if on the conclusion of the Korean hostilities China were to increase the assistance it has been giving to Viet-Minh in Indo-China. Both the United States and France have been inclined to treat the Korean war and the war in Indo-China as if they were part of the same struggle.

If they are part of the same struggle it means that in one area the USA has been able to use the United Nations for its own ends, whereas in the other it hasn't. They are only the same struggle if what has been going on in both areas has been part of a war against Communism and the claim that the war in Korea was against aggression and not against an ideology is not seriously held.

China is no more taking hostile action against the USA if it supplies armaments to Viet-Minh than the USA is taking hostile action against China if it supplies arms to Viet-Nam, or to France, for use in Indo-China, as in the case of the 80-million dollar air-craft carrier referred to by Mr. Muste last week.

What has been going on in Indo-China is predominantly a struggle for national independence; if Communists have been able to exercise great influence in that struggle it is because France with United States backing has not been prepared to relinquish imperial control.

The heaviest contribution to France's economic difficulties has been the war in Indo-China. The strikes, largely initiated by the non-Communist trade union group Force Ouvriere, and only subsequently supported by the Communists, are directed against unsatisfactory living standards largely produced by the Indo-Chinese war.

However the strikes end, steps will have to be taken to improve conditions and the only obvious way to do this at present is to bring to an end this war, which was at first treated with indifference by the French workers and now arouses growing antagonism. Writing on the subject of the strikes in the Observer Nora Beloff quotes an official of M. Laniel's cabinet as remarking:

"Whatever replaces this Government, its first and most popular action will be to terminate the Indo-Chinese war and use the additional funds and the psychological basis to launch a new recovery plan involving more radical reforms than those we have proposed."

The Sudan Gezira scheme

REGINALD REYNOLDS sends us the following information about the Sudan Gezira Scheme.

Under this scheme, 30,000 peasant families have been settled in a million acres of irrigated land that had previously been practically useless. It had been rented at about two shillings (10 piastres) per acre, a *yearly* rent for the seasonal grazing. Two limited companies were invited to co-operate in the development programme. They owned the land and knew they would only have a limited lease of life. The older company had a right of 40 years (1910 to 1950). Then the companies were superseded by the Sudan Gezira Board, a public non-profit making corporation.

As a result of these measures the peasants became extremely prosperous. In a bumper year they recently netted £750 per holding on their cotton crops alone, after the Board and the Government had each received their share. Only a quarter of a small holding is in any year under cotton. A quarter is fallow, and half under food crops on which neither the Government nor the Board (previously the Limited Companies) has any claim. So the farmers had 20 acres of food crops each, per family, in addition to the money. This is fabulous wealth by African standards. The peasants, with their families, probably number about 150,000. But with ginning mills (which are owned by the Board—wages and conditions relatively very good) and subsidiary industries, shops, hired labour, etc, the number now living in the Gezira is about 500,000 altogether. Fifty years ago, for most of the year, it was practically a desert.

The Government now makes about a quarter of its revenue out of the Gezira; not by taxing profits, but just by selling water. The revenue is in excess of what is set aside for interest and repayment of loans incurred for the irrigation project. The two companies made big profits and retired from the scene very well satisfied. The Board which succeeded them is able to set aside up to £250,000 per annum for social development. Both the Board and the peasants have piled up reserve funds.

All this was done by the co-operation of the "ignorant masses" with Western skill and equipment. Not a single acre of land was alienated. Land was leased by Government at its original value (10 piastres yearly per feddan) and allocated in 40 acre plots. Rent is paid only by a percentage of the cotton crop grown on 10 acres under cotton (40% goes to the Government, 20% to the Board, 40% to the cultivator). The original owners can only sell to Government, which now owns about half the million acres. All engineers on the Sudan Gezira (except in the ginnig mills) will shortly be Sudanese and the Board as a whole is being rapidly "Sudanised." The Government will be a real Sudanese Government this year.

Some questions for Kenya

These developments raise some questions that the European settlers in Kenya might find it difficult to answer. Here huge areas of cultivable land in the "White Highlands" are set aside for the exclusive use of European immigrants, are still uncultivated. A settler normally requires about 2,000 acres, more or less, and a loan of about £7,000 to start him. This is a country where the African population is in many parts down to one or two acres per family (in Maragoli, for example, and the Kikuyu are about the same or much better). The only claim the European has put forward is that he is a better farmer.

This is often disputable. Much of the "European" Land is not farmed at all. And one may doubt the value of providing a good living for one man (and a wretched living for his hired labour) when the same land would provide for hundreds of African small holders. Why cannot Europeans methods be applied to enrich the African, as has been done in the Sudan?

"The Rehearsed Response"

AS I write this letter on the way to an FoR conference near Denver, Colo., the headlines in the Chicago papers are shared by the statement recently made by Malenkov to the effect that the U.S. does not have a monopoly in the H-bomb production or know-how and reports that some U.S. prisoners of war in North Korea were won over to Communism

LETTER FROM U.S.A.
By A. J. Muste

and intend to propagandize for "peace and Communism" when they return to the States.

The prevailing disposition among commentators is to hold that Malenkov's announcement may be truthful and the evasive comments made by members of the Atomic Energy Commission and other government officials are generally interpreted as meaning that the latter are not disposed to make light of the matter. Unfortunately, the prevailing reaction is, to use a phrase of W. H. Auden, "the rehearsed response," viz. that it is necessary for us to speed up our own atomic weapons production as the one hope of "deterring" the men in the Kremlin and bringing *them* to their senses.

The opening paragraph of an Associated Press dispatch from Panmanjom featured in our papers reads: "A bitter band of Americans came back from the Red prison camp—vowing vengeance on weaker comrades who turned to Communism under pressure."

The story goes on to say that special precautions are being taken by the military police lest patriotic ex P.W.s. attempt to kill these converts to Communism on ship back to America. The impression one gains is that there were quite a few such conversions, and it is a little difficult to believe that the authorities themselves are making these stories up in order to arouse anti-Communist hysteria.

Side by side with this dispatch is one from Inchon, Korea, protesting at the censorship imposed on the press in attempts to get interviews from the returned P.W.s.

An instance is given of a Captain Cohn, a medical officer, stating in answer to a question that the medical treatment Americans got from Communists was "quite good." Having said which, the Captain turned apprehensively toward the public relations officer—they are said to accompany G.I.s now even to the latrines—and asked whether it was proper to give this answer. When the Public Information Officer put on a non-commita air, Captain Cohn said: "Well, let's say that the Communist medical treatment was fair. That is, lets say they did the best they could with what they had." Of course, such reports as these appear side by side with "atrocity stories."

To turn to a brief reference to another matter which is in the news here, some of us who have been distressed over the Eisenhower-Dulles use of food gifts for psychological warfare against the East German regime and who questioned whether it was a good move even from a so-called practical point of view, have been cheered by the report of the position taken by the Head of the Evangelical Church in East Berlin, Dean Heinrich Grueber. Undoubtedly the press elsewhere has also carried the story that Dean Grueber, whose anti-Communist record is unexceptionable, has now attacked the West's food programme as a psychological warfare operation and hence immoral.

If only there were more such churchmen who refused to be tools of the war-makers on either side, and pronounced divine judgement upon them.

India's silent revolution

THE RAJAH SAID "YES"

THE Bhoodan Yagna or Land Gift Mission is the campaign led by a disciple of Gandhi, Acharya Vinoba Bhave, to put an end to the land-poverty of the Indian peasants.

Acting according to the principle of non-violent persuasion, Mr. Bhave goes from village to village appealing to landowners rich and poor to give up one-sixth of their property to the Bhoodan movement. In this way hundreds of thousands of acres have been received and handed over to impoverished people who for the first time in their lives now know the meaning of freedom from exploitation and want. The following story is reported in the Indian monthly Sarvodaya, the organ of the Bhoodan movement:

On May 29 Vinobaji* happened to camp at Ranka in Bihar. Sri Gouri Prasad Narain Singhji, the Rajah of Ranka, was there on the same day. The Rajah is a great *Siva-Bhakta* (Devotee of the Lord of All) and a sincere and good soul. On two occasions, he offered 2,500 acres and 1,100 acres of land to Bhoodan Yagna when he was approached by ordinary workers.

Vinobaji and the Rajah Sahib met and had a talk. During the conversation, naturally Vinobaji inquired: "Why so much difference between the two gifts?"

RAJAH SAHIB: So much as was asked, was given.

VINOBAJI: How much will you give us?

RAJAH SAHIB: As much as you will demand.

VINOBAJI: How many acres of land have you with you on the whole?

RAJAH SAHIB: Uncultivated land one lakh† of acres and self-cultivated land about nine to ten thousand of acres, out of which about 3,000 acres were almost settled in favour of subjects.

VINOBAJI: You have thrown a responsibility on us that we may think of you also. Usually we demand one-sixth share. You may, please, give us the whole of the uncultivated land and one-sixth of the cultivated land.

"Yes" at once the Rajah Sahib said and offered 102,001 acres. This gift is the biggest one, not only in Bihar but in the whole of India.

**The suffix "ji" means sir, mister or madam, as in Gandhiji, Panditji, etc.*

†A lakh is one hundred thousand.

UNESCO work in West Africa

A Fundamental Education Centre is planned for West Africa. Under the auspices of UNESCO it will be concerned with providing training in techniques for the combating of illiteracy, poverty and disease.

UNESCO is also considering a seminar on Fundamental Education for West Africa to follow its recent succesful course on UN Specialised Agencies at Monrovia, Liberia.

GREETINGS to you all from the 81 grown-ups and children who are sharing in the Peace Pledge Union's Summer Holiday Conference at Abergele, Wales.

The weather is being very kind to us and all are enjoying themselves. This conference is the symbol of the fact that the PPU is a fellowship and that, though we may differ in our views on many other subjects, we are all bound together in our renunciation of war and our desire to live in right relationships with our fellow men and women. So while we enjoy ourselves on the beach, in the sea, or on excursions during the day, we spend the evenings in long discussions about some of the questions which are of special concern.

I hope that many other readers of Peace News are also enjoying a holiday and a change from their normal surroundings. I hope also that you have not forgotten that the work of the PPU goes on all the time—HQ is not shut and our overhead expenses do not stop. In a sense the one holiday we can never take is from our pacifist witness—that is too much a part of us to be left behind!

Some of us cannot have a holiday from the constant concern about PPU finances. So if you are on holiday, will you, please, spare a thought for the PPU Headquarters, and save a little from that excursion or those expenses which we allow ourselves—and send it along with the true spirit of fellowship in which we share both the holiday spirit and the determination that the PPU will not relax its efforts to bring into the world the spirit of real fellowship.

Is it not worth everything to help to make the world as safe a place for children to play on the sands or the fields?

STUART MORRIS,
General Secretary.

Our aim for 1953: £1,000.
Amount received since Jan. 1: £412

Donations to the Peace Pledge Union should be sent marked "Headquarters" to the PPU Treasurer at Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh St., W.C.1.

The sharing of skills

70 NATIONS IN A PEACEFUL ALLIANCE

From the Quaker Centre in Geneva, J. Duncan Wood sends the following report on the UN Technical Assistance Board. The value of this UN programme has recently been enhanced by the adhesion to the programme of Poland and the Soviet Union.

Technical assistance is not a one-way traffic, Duncan Wood writes. The West has not a monopoly of skill; many of the skills in other areas are better adapted for transmission to the under-developed regions.

THE documents prepared for the use of delegates to meetings of United Nations bodies are not, as a rule, exciting reading.

The recently published "Fifth Report of the Technical Assistance Board"* is an exception to this general tendency, and the work which it reports should be of the greatest interest to all who look to international action to promote peace and prosperity.

It is not in the nature of Technical Assistance to produce spectacular results in a short period of time and it would be foolish to look for many in this report.

There are, nevertheless, some instances of quick returns: increased production in an iron foundry in Pakistan and a mill in India; assistance to Saudi Arabia to package its dates for the first time in 3,000 years; the cultivation of the pineapple as a year-round crop in Thailand; a successful campaign against malaria in Burma.

But, as the report says:

"While it is encouraging to know that the programme is already producing significant results in many fields, the importance of these results should be kept in proper perspective. The problems of economic development are many and various and most of them do not admit of short-term solutions. Indeed any short-term result, however gratifying, which cannot be sustained without the continued presence of international experts, is illusory.

"The whole spirit and purpose of the Expanded Programme is to help the Governments and peoples of under-developed countries to manage their own economic affairs, and to master the techniques which make this possible. It is in keeping with this philisophy that so many projects included in the Expanded Programme have been planned on a long-term basis, with the main emphasis on helping to bring into being the teams of men and women, technically equipped at every level, who are needed to manage and conduct the complex business of a more advanced economy.

"These projects, sometimes far from spectacular, are not likely to show results overnight."

Jungle triumph in Ceylon

The twelve selected projects described illustrate admirably the Technical Assistance programme.

Each project involves one or more of the specialised agencies and in one case all four of the major agencies, International Labour Office (ILO), World Health Organisation (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) are at work together.

A particularly interesting project in the jungle of Ceylon bears many similarities to the much more modest American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) scheme at Barpali in Orissa.

A thousand years ago the interior dry zone of Ceylon was a fertile area covered with rice fields, thanks to the skill of engineer kings who built reservoirs and canals. This magnificent irrigation system fell into decay and the area reverted to jungle until in 1933 the Ministry of Agriculture decided to turn back the clock.

The jungle is now retreating and colonists are moving in to settle on the newly-won agricultural land.

There is danger as well as promise in this movement and the Ceylon government is anxious that the new colonists as well as the historic jungle villages shall be helped to become sound self-sufficient communities. This is the basis of the Fundamental Education Centre set up in the region of Minneriya, 120 miles from Colombo. Here UNESCO is undertaking fundamental education, WHO is trying to teach health consciousness, FAO is introducing sound farming techniques and ILO has a programme of development of cottage industries.

Battle against disease

Another report describes how a Swiss science teacher sent to the Phillipines by UNESCO was able to equip the school science laboratories by turning electric light bulbs and tin cans into serviceable laboratory apparatus.

There is also the ILO scheme for increasing the skilled manpower of Yugoslavia by a two-way process of sending skilled men to Yugoslavia and bringing Yugoslavs to more advanced countries for training.

FAO is now investigating the possibilities of improving the production of timber in the vast Amazon basin roughly the size of Australia. The same organisation is helping Ethiopia to eradicate rinderpest and other diseases of cattle. WHO, in co-operation with UNICEF, has attacked Yaws, a contagious disease, in Thailand with marked success and has a big malaria control project in Formosa.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation has undertaken to train Indonesians to run their own air services to link their islands scattered along a 3,000 mile chain. These are a few of the projects now in operation in 92 territories.

An alliance of 70 nations

The increasingly widespread character of the programme is one of its most encouraging aspects. The recent adhesion of Poland and Soviet Russia brings the total of countries contributing to nearly 70.

Many countries both contribute and receive assistance. Further more the assistance itself is not a one-way traffic from the developed Western countries to the under-developed areas elsewhere.

The West has not a monopoly of skill; indeed many of the skills in other areas are better adapted for transmission to the under-developed regions. The new pineapple in Thailand was originally discovered by accident in the Canary Islands.

Statistics show that the experts come from as many as 64 countries, many of them regarded as under-developed; India, a country usually regarded as under-developed, received 136 experts from abroad but sent out 84; Egypt sent out more experts than she received. The programme is thus rightly described as the sharing of skills.

It is one of the most inspiring examples of international co-operation in the world today.

**United Nations Publication, E/2433 Price 25s. $3.50.*

CEDRIC WILDMAN REFUSES CALL-UP

THE Summer issue of the War Resister* contains news of conscription in Southern Rhodesia.

Cedric Wildman, a war resister, was called upon to register with his age group. The law makes no provision for conscientious objection there. Cedric Wildman therefore attended the police office but instead of completing the registration form he handed in a statement of his objection to military service.

He was called before an Exemptions Committee and given a sympathetic hearing, but the Committee is not empowered to release men from military service on conscientious grounds. He was given the opportunity to enlist in a non-combatant corps, but refused. He was also called for a medical examination which he also refused. He now awaits developments.

Cedric Wildman is working at St. Faith's Mission, the inter-racial agricultural centre which is the subject of a pamphlet by Patrick O'Donovan of The Observer—"Africa: Which Way Now" (Africa Bureau, 1s.).

**1s., War Resisters International.*

Next UN President?

Mrs. Ranjit S. Nehru, often called Mrs. Pandit, sister of the Indian Prime Minister, is being tipped as the next President of the UN.

America opposed her candidature as Secretary-General, but is now reported to be supporting her for President. The world will know the outcome when the UN meets next month.

REPORT ON JAPAN

'Hiroshima and Nagasaki give us the right to speak for peace'

From MURIEL LESTER in an interview with Tom Wardle

IN 1951 John Foster Dulles went to Tokyo to arrange the terms of the Peace Treaty with Japan. The outcome was the programme of rearmament in violation of the new Japanese Constitution which explicitly repudiated war.

Article nine of that Constitution reads:

"Aspiring sincerely to an international peace based on justice and order, the Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat, or use of force, as means of settling international disputes."

The gross departure from this pledge came as a great shock to the people. There was a sense of outrage. No-one knew quite what to do at first.

The Buddhists act

Then some women's groups put out an "Open letter to the women of Japan" urging a peace policy; the Christian Peace Society and the Japanese Fellowship of Reconciliation also went into action.

But the movement gained most influence when a Buddhist priest of the old established orthodox Nichiren sect, Rev. Nittatsu Fujii, appeared like a prophet and called on his fellow Buddhists to repent that in the past they had silently submitted to the militarist government.

The public dishonour which the breach of the Constitution involved had stirred men like Fujii.

For centuries the Buddhist movement, which has profound roots in the Japanese people, had refrained from challenging the authority of the Emperor or the State. During the war the priests played no part, they neither supported nor condemned.

Now they were called upon to repent and to speak out for the principles of their gentle Teacher.

From bomber-crew to peace movement

Fujii was joined by a pupil, Gyotsu Sato, who had been a member of a bomber crew in the war. Their influence spread over the islands, one of their most exciting experiences being the contact with the Fellowship of Reconciliation when they learned for the first time of the world-wide association of men and women sharing their ideals.

There is now in existence a loose liaison grouping of war resisters in Japan. It includes the Buddhist followers of Fujii, the Women's Groups, the non-Communist Trade Unions, the Fellowship of Reconciliation and the left-wing Socialists under the leadership of Mr. Suzuki and Mr. Takanaka, both pacifists.

These friends of peace have set themselves a four-fold task:

1. **The abrogation of the Administrative Agreement between the United States and Japan.**
2. **The abolition of the 773 military, naval and air bases in the islands and the withdrawal of all foreign troops.**
3. **The abolition of the so-called Safety Preservation Corps.**
4. **The Prohibition of the manufacture of arms in Japanese factories.**

To do this they will seek to strengthen their spirit and unity and to promote constructive measures in Japan and the United Nations that will further peace. Above all they will press unceasingly for world disarmament.

International Conference planned

In April 1954, under the sponsorship of the Buddhist group, an international pacifist conference will be held in Japan.

Rev. Sato, writing to friends in the West says:

"I wish to bring to your attention the unyielding spirit of the Buddhist peace movement. I am hoping for messages from Christian fellow pacifists in the West.

"It is high time that the little differences between man and man should be got rid of, in order to establish universal reconciliation.

"I wish very much to invite such friends to an international conference here, to be held in April 1954. At this forthcoming conference we want to hold the opening ceremony of the Peace Pagoda which we are erecting."

Other priests of the Order are in India working with Gandhian groups there. Details of the international conference may be obtained from: Rev. Gyotsu Sato, Nipponzan Myohoji Temple, 14 Ryogoku, Tokyo Nihonbashi, Japan.

In announcing the Conference, Mr. Sato said, "Hiroshima and Nagasaki have given us the right to speak for peace."

Police van gave them a lift!

THE West Berlin newspaper "SOS" reports that the peace walkers, led by German pacifists Nikolaus Koch and Paul Debes, who left Hamburg in April to walk to Berlin in an effort to plead for peace through negotiations, crossed the zonal border into Eastern Germany on July 15.

After five attempts to cross from the American Zone and having been prevented by the police on each occasion, the marchers moved a few miles north into the British Zone. Here they simply walked through an opening in the barbed wire fence marking the border.

They were received on the Eastern German side by two policemen and taken to the local police station and later to the head of the district police. After they had explained the purpose of their venture, the police put a van at their disposal which took them to Erfurt and from thence to Leipzig and Berlin.

According to "SOS" they were able to arrange several meetings and discussions in Berlin.

TRIBUNE

Socialist—Independent—Fearless

The new weekly, Fourpenny, **Tribune** brings you open discussion of the issues facing the Labour Movement, factual accounts of the impact of a Tory Government on ordinary people and the real facts about what is happening abroad. The Editorial Board are Jennie Lee, Michael Foot, Ian Mikardo and J. P. W. Mallalieu. Help to keep this independent socialist newspaper going, by ordering now.

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WHY DON'T THE SOLDIERS SHOOT?

How to make civilised young men good soldiers—or as one General has put it, "the best killers in the world," is a problem that is vexing military leaders throughout the world.

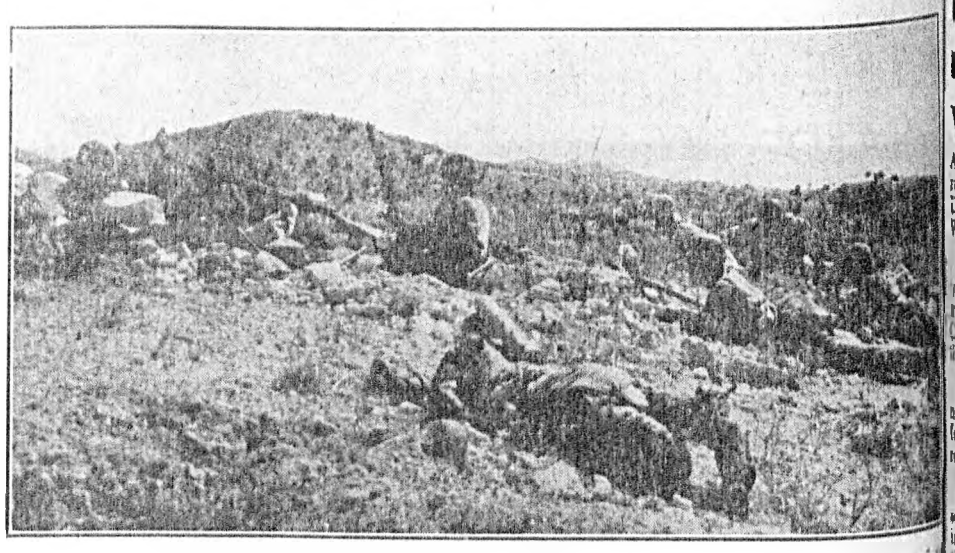
American military circles have been shocked by the discovery that only one soldier in five fires his gun when in battle.

American Quakers have been still more shocked by the discovery that the military see the solution of their problem in rooting out the moral and religious convictions which have grown up in young men as a result of a 4,000 year old system of morality.

To place this problem squarely before thinking people, the American Friends Service Council have reprinted in leaflet form a Collier's Magazine article by Bill Davidson, entitled "Why Half our Combat Soldiers Fail to Shoot." This appeared in Collier's Magazine on November 8, 1952.

The AFSC say that they are indebted to the writer of the article for stating the issue so clearly. It affirms their long-held belief that war must be rejected if democracy and moral values are to survive.

The following is an extract from the leaflet. Another extract in which military solutions to the problem are put forward will appear in Peace News next week.



IMAGINE you're a combat infantryman in Korea, well trained and well dug in on a ridge line, awaiting an enemy attack.

The artillery and mortar barrage begins. you see a number of the enemy making their way up the steep hill toward your unit. They mean to kill you.

Ducking from rock to rock, moving steadily forward, they finally run across an open area and come plainly into view. They're perfect targets.

You sight down your rifle barrel. Your finger tightens. But then—as the perspiration pours from you—nothing happens! **You just can't squeeze the trigger!**

Impossible? Unusual? Once the Army thought so, too. But now, after a long, hard look at itself, the Army is facing up to these sobering facts:

In any given action of World War II, only 12 to 25 per cent of all the combat soldiers who were armed and in a position to fire their weapons at the enemy were able to pull the trigger!

In Korea, the average has been raised by dint of intensive effort, but only to a maximum of about 50 per cent!

In other words, today, one out of every two American soldiers who come face to face with the enemy cannot be counted on to fight.

It's difficult for Americans to accept this disclosure, since it seems to be a reflection on the patriotism and bravery of their own sons and brothers. Actually, the courage of those of our infantrymen who **do** fight is unsurpassed anywhere in the world. Their bravery—plus the fact that our tanks and artillery give us unparalleled massed firepower—has more than made up so far for the failures of the riflemen in the lines who do not fight.

Not a question of courage

Official studies of why combat men freeze up reveal clearly that courage, as such, often is not involved. There was a much-decorated World War I company commander, for example, who always advanced under fire well ahead of his men, urging them on. Yet, he confessed to a fellow officer that throughout the entire war he never was able to bring himself to pull the trigger of his weapon. He's now, incidentally, a general in the Marine Corps.

In pursuing the question of why soldiers don't shoot, I spoke with dozens of scientists, Army historians, combat commanders and non-commissioned officers who had just returned from the Korean front. Nearly all told the same story. At Fort Dix, in particular, I had a revealing series of bull sessions with a group of noncom heroes assembled in an empty class-room. The participants were the cream of the U.S. Infantry.

"It was rough," said Master Sergeant Nicholas Smith, of Washington, D.C., a recent D.S.C. winner in Korea. "Sometimes you sent a squad to cover your flank and, instead of nine rifles firing, you only heard two or three."

"That's right," said Sergeant Thomas McGrath, of Haddon Heights, New Jersey (Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart). "Of the nine men in my squad in Korea, I never could count on more than four or five to fire, even when it meant saving their own lives."

"Time and time again," said Master Sergeant John S. Williams, of Flushing, New York (two Silver Stars, three Bronze Stars, five Purple Hearts). "I had to expose myself and crawl from foxhole to foxhole to get half of the platoon to fire. Sometimes I'd practically have to sight the rifle and pull the trigger for the guy."

And so it went, with one noncom after another recalling—occasionally with some bitterness—this strange behaviour on the part of his men. But the theme also is repeated with distressing regularity in the reports of the combat historians who interview combat troops a day or two after battle.

One of the most clear-cut cases in Korea involved a platoon of the 38th Infantry Regiment; it had collapsed, allowing a serious enemy break-through. The platoon came back with virtually all of its ammunition unfired. When the fact was discovered, one of the sergeants tried to explain. He said:

"The Chinese mortar started firing on us, but we were unable to reply with flat trajectory weapons . . . The Chinese closed to within 30 or 40 feet of us, but we couldn't make effective reply to them because they had set up a machine gun on our right flank . . . We couldn't get our heads up . . . Except when the Chinese got on the sky line we could scarcely see a target . . . Our machine gun did no firing because of the Chinese moving against our right flank. Later, when we pulled back and the gun was set up in a new position, it wouldn't work . . . The BAR (Browning automatic rifle) had gone bad when we were in the initial position. It wasn't jammed, but it just got sluggish and wouldn't work . . . Sergeant ——, who was over near me, kept having trouble with his rifle. The extractor wouldn't work, though it didn't seem to be broke . . . I didn't walk away—I ran away."

One man who used his weapons

These pathetically flimsy excuses did not explain the one essential fact: an entire platoon had frozen; no one had fired. Yet in the same action, under the same conditions, twenty-year-old Private Edsel Turner, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, assigned to another platoon of the same company, had managed to use his rifle and grenades so effectively that he personally accounted for 29 dead Reds. He held the battlefield, single-handed, after the company and six tanks had withdrawn. For his astonishing bravery, he was recommended for the DSC, the second highest U.S. decoration.

The man who questioned the sergeant was Brigadier General S. L. A. Marshall, who has been described by high Army sources as "undoubtedly knowing more about this subject than any other living man." He recently spent five months in the front lines in Korea analysing Chinese tactics for the United Nations forces.

General Marshall is credited with being the first to discover the mass phenomenon of nonfirer. His interest grew out of his experiences in World War II, when the Army sent him to the Pacific to develop accurate system of combat reporting.

Soon after reaching Makin Island, the Battalion of the 165th Infantry Regiment caught in a Japanese night ambush. unit escaped disaster only because a soldier named Private Morris Schwartz, of New York City, took over a machine gun from fallen crew and mowed down attacking Japanese throughout the night.

Getting at the true story

The next day Marshall tried to find out just what had happened. He bumped into long into conflicting stories.

A lieutenant claimed that he had ordered Schwartz to take over the gun; Schwartz insisted the lieutenant was nowhere in the vicinity and that he had done it on his own.

Finally, to get at the truth, Marshall lined up the entire battalion and asked each man to report everything he had seen and done during the night. Not only was Schwartz's story upheld, but Marshall almost immediately realised he had stumbled onto the secret of accurate combat reporting. Every man remembered **something**—a piece to be fitted into the jigsaw puzzle.

Not only that, Marshall had the key to what has become the Army's officially adopted Group Method of reporting and analysing battles: the average man cannot lie in the presence of comrades who would contradict him if he were telling an untruth; each is haunted by the memory of the recent dead and **will** not lie.

Marshall also learned—and ignored at the time—that **of the more than 1,000 men in the reinforced battalion, only 37 had fired their weapons.** He just thought the outfit was green. But a few weeks later, on Chave Island in the Marshalls, he did a similar group investigation of a gallant action by the crack Reconnaissance Troop of the 7th Infantry Division. Of the 100 men in the fight, only 14 had done all the firing that routed the enemy. He began then to suspect he was on the trail of something big.

Marshall became absolutely certain that during a European tour of duty. In Normandy he found that no more than 25 per cent of our best airborne troops were firing their weapons. By the end of the war, he had 350 men working under him in the European Theatre of Operations. They group-interrogated hundreds of outfits fresh out of battle and fixed the percentage of men who actually fired their rifles against the enemy at 12 to 25 per cent.

After World War II, Marshall wrote "Men Against Fire," in which he devoted a great

● NEXT PAGE

Farmer with a mission

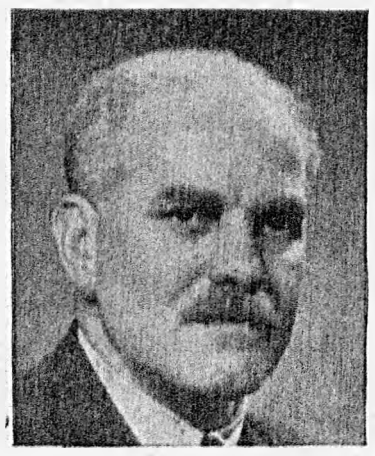
HARRY HILDITCH

By Robert Greacen

IT is hardly absurd to say that the best kind of soldier can become the best kind of pacifist. At any rate it sometimes works out that way. Courage and tenacity are even more essential for the man who holds minority opinions than for the person bolstered by the approbation of society.

Henry Hilditch won his M.C. on the Somme, where he was severely wounded, in 1916 at the age of 25. A Cheshire man, he had left school at 14, and at different times had worked as a barber's lather boy, a bootblack and a grocer's assistant.

Mr. Hilditch joined up as a volunteer in September 1914. He was dismissed by the British firm he had been working for in



Norway, after the 1921 Election, because of his Socialist views. Then began a spell of unemployment he has never been able to forget. In 1923 he went into industry and four years later was a director of a firm in Leith.

Going to Birmingham in 1931 he started his own business as a metal ingot manufacturer a couple of years later. At the outbreak of the last war he had a thriving factory in Birmingham, with warehouses in Sheffield and Cardiff, and offices in three continents.

Once again his views came between him and material prosperity. He and his son sold out their business—without a penny for goodwill—rather than make armaments. Since then he has worked out his theories on agriculture, not just on paper but on the land itself, and played a leading part in Labour Party activities.

Both before and during the recent War Mr. Hilditch spoke regularly at that well-known landmark in the centre of Birmingham, the Bull Ring. It says much for the easy tolerance of English crowds that he only twice had to face a hostile audience. One such occasion was the Monday following Dunkirk in those critical June days of 1940.

He also found the crowds a bit rough during a meeting in 1944 when he pointed out that the defeat of Nazi Germany would not eliminate War itself, and that Russia would be the next official enemy. People do not like having their opium dreams shattered. And prophets have always a way of being unpopular.

Harry Hilditch is as keen a Socialist as he is a pacifist, and has fought two Parliamentary elections. He was "Christian Socialist" candidate at Kirkcaldy in February 1944. In his election address he made clear his opposition to the "unconditional surrender" War then in progress:

The longer the war continues, the greater the accumulation of evidence showing that in the war method, life and liberty, freedom and the human person count for less and less, and that dictatorship and direction in both work and leisure count for more and more.

Not only did he urge an immediate negotiated peace, but he called for Indian self-government and the early nationalisation of Banking and Credit, Transport and the Mines. He reminded Christians of "a higher loyalty than that of a state mobilised for total war."

It may seem a long way from metal manufacturing and public speaking in England's second city to farming in Skye on which Mr. Hilditch is now engaged. But this transition in his life—made possible by his daughter and son-in-law going there two years ago—has come about quite naturally in view of Henry Hilditch's life-long ideas.

He believes that the various tensions in this country will not slacken until there is a correct balance as between industry and agriculture. Further, Mr. Hilditch contends that we *can* grow all the food necessary for our 50 million population, without any cut in the present standard of living. He thinks that the "marginal" land of the Scottish Highlands and Wales could supply all the beef, mutton and wool that are considered necessary.

I personally have not the knowledge to decide whether all this is possible. It would, I think, require a completely new orientation in the British way of material living. The repercussions would be socially and politically profound, bringing about a new distribution of population and a quite different attitude to world affairs. A nation of shepherds and ploughmen, however mechanised their equipment, would hardly be imperialist in outlook.

One must be impressed by the sincerity and resolve of a man who decides to work with his own hands to prove (or even disprove) the soundness of his ideas. Harry Hilditch is that kind of man. He is the kind of man who shows people that pacifists need not merely dream of a brave new world at the rainbow's end, but can do something about achieving their ideals in this very imperfect world in which we live.

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A FARMER'S LOG BOOK

THE most aggravating thing about the [illegible] that have flattened so many acres of cereals this summer is that the best crops have been the hardest hit. Our barley, for example, and one of our fields of winter oats, were the poorest crops on the farm yet they stood up to the severest battering.

Yet another three acre field of Spring oats which was as good and better than you could see around, went down with the first storm and never looked like coming up again.

Last week we had the job of cutting it, and it was only then that we realised how bad things were. The straw doubled up on the canvases, blocked the binder and broke the string. Sheaves came out in big shapeless bundles, and every few minutes we were forced to stop. The first round alone took over an hour, and things got worse not better as we progressed slowly inwards. It soon became apparent that every sheaf would have to be sorted out and retied, and that this was going to be a much bigger job than we had anticipated.

Finally the old binder—a relic of the "W. Ag." days—broke down and I fancy there was a certain feeling of relief all round that another method would now have to be tried. Clearly we could not attempt to use the binder again even when the broken piece had been welded back into place.

Eventually we found an answer to the problem by cutting the crop with an ordinary mower, clearing away the loose after every round with the hay rake, and making a stack of it in one corner of the field. But it has taken several hard and long days to finish it.

Meanwhile an even heavier oat crop on some land of ours at Headley in Surrey has stood up to the weather by and large. These oats followed a ploughed-in clover ley and received no treatment other than a top dressing of sewerage sludge—evidence that "artificials" inflate cell structures and weaken plant fibre and that fertility methods can give us heavier and stouter crops.

Michael Randle

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FARMER'S
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Michael Ha

Leaves from a notebook . . .

WINIFRED RAWLINS was granted American citizenship in Philadelphia on August 5, after Judge Allan K. Grim had over-ruled opposition by the U.S. Immigration Department who were acting on orders from Washington.

Her many friends in Britain had been keeping their fingers crossed as Winifred, former member of the Peace Pledge Union's National Council and a London Quaker, approached this hurdle.

She has been in the USA for some years now and has played an active part in the formation and work of Peacemakers, the revolutionary pacifist group.

In 1949 Winifred served a 30 days' prison sentence after squatting in the French Embassy in Washington in support of French conscientious objectors.

In the following year she joined in a seven-day fast in protest at the manufacture of the H-bomb.

In 1951 came a move to Alabama to engage in reconciliation work at a race relations trouble spot in the Deep South.

Now she is at Pendle Hill, in Pennsylvania, serving on the staff of the Quaker centre there.

Judge (not so) Grim case

THE immigration Department's opposition, at the Philadelphia hearing, was on the grounds that Winifred Rawlings was conscientiously unable to take the oath of allegiance introduced by the new McCarran Act.

The new oath includes a statement of willingness to perform either armed service, non-combatant service, or service of national importance under a civilian authority, when called upon to do so.

Judge Grim over-ruled the Immigration Department and allowed Winifred Rawlings to take the earlier form of oath (amended for religious pacifists) which makes no reference to war service, because her petition predated the passing of the McCarran Act.

Twelve years ago, Winifred Rawlings wrote in Peace News on the subject of the conscription of women under the title "Why I shall not register":

"The greatest evil in the conscription of women lies in the fact that thousands who have not reached the point of any kind of resistance, many of them inarticulate working women of immature age, are by means of it drawn into work which outrages all the deepest human and womenly instincts in them, work which they would shrink from were it not placed before them as an unavoidable duty to the State.

"This is what I must protest against, the gradual overshadowing of every aspect of our social and family life by the dark necessity of killing and preparing the instruments of death."

The lives of both Winifred and her sister Kathleen (still in England) are a living witness to that protest and an encouragement to all in the pacifist movement on both sides of the Atlantic.

Peacemaker

Letters to the Editor

Greek Earthquake Disaster

TENS of thousands have been rendered destitute and homeless by the terrible calamity which has overtaken the western Greek islands. To assist victims of the disaster the Commonwealth of World Citizens, which is specially concerned with service to the Greek people, has opened a relief fund to which we are sure many will be anxious to contribute.

Cheques should be made payable to Mrs. Helene Schonfield, who is acting as Hon. Treasurer of the fund, and addressed to her at 30 Wood Lane, Highgate, London, N.6.

HUGH J. SCHONFIELD.
Chairman.

Commonwealth of World Citizens,
27 Red Lion St.,
London, W.C.1.

Conversation Between College Women

LAST November I was in New York attending the General Assembly of the United Nations at the time the Indian Resolution on Korea was being discussed. I was having breakfast one morning and all the tables in dining room were occupied, so I invited a latecomer—an American woman—to sit at my table. The following conversation took place:

American Woman: You are a foreigner?

Jessie Street: Yes.

A W: English?

J S: Yes.

A W (*challengingly*): Well, I would like you to know that we hold you responsible for this war in Korea.

J S: What on earth do you mean?

A W: If you had not recognised that bunch of Communists as the Government of China, the War in Korea would never have been started.

J S: We recognised the new Government in China because they were recognised by their own people, and it was the only fair and sensible thing to do.

A W: Don't try to teach me, I am a College woman and I know what I am talking about.

J S: I am also a College woman and I also know what I am talking about. Supposing Great Britain refused to recognise President Eisenhower or his Government, and insisted on considering Truman as President, and his Government as the Government of the United States?

A W: Why, that would be ridiculous.

J S: I quite agree but we in England think it is just as ridiculous that you in the United States still recognise Chiang Kai-shek as the President and his Government as the Government of China.

A W: But it is quite different, President Eisenhower is not a Communist.

The conversation simmered down into an amicable discussion on the rights of the people of a country to have the sort of Government they wanted.

JESSIE M. G. STREET.

559 Park West,
Edgware Rd., W.2.

Conscription Survey

HELPERS are wanted for interviewing in connection with a Survey on conscription to take place in Barnet (Herts) on August 28 and 29, and September 5. Applications, stating age, and time available, should be addressed to Barnet National Service Research Group, c/o Friends Meeting House, Leicester Rd., New Barnet.

The purpose of the Survey, which is sponsored by the Conscription Group of the Society of Friends Peace Committee, is to investigate impartially attitudes to National Service, and some of the ways in which the prospect of Call-Up affects the pre-National Serviceman. (e.g. The extent of unemployment and frequent job-changing among 17-year olds).

PHILIP SEED.
Organiser.

Press Curtain

Revelations of conditions behind the Iron Curtain, as reported by Lt. Jarechi, Polish jet pilot who flew a MiG to freedom recently, have been given wide press coverage. Many papers, however, either played down or deleted entirely the jet ace's other statements, that there were no signs that the Soviets were contemplating an offensive against the West—that Moscow felt very shaky about her satellites . . .

—*Between the Lines (USA), June*, 1. 1953.

Campaign Corner

THE UNHEARD TESTIMONY

PEACE NEWS last week reported the refusal of the United Nations Commission on South Africa to hear all of Tom Wardle's testimony because it involved international questions.

The Geneva correspondent of the Manchester Guardian and the Times refused to take any copy from the unheard testimony. To date no major British newspaper has published a word of Tom Wardle's evidence.

In order that this testimony shall not go unnoticed Peace News will next week publish a precis of it.

You can help to make the full facts known by ordering extra copies of this issue for sending to delegates at the forthcoming session of the United Nations' General Assembly. One shilling sent to Peace News will despatch one copy by airmail. There are 60 delegations in all.

It would also be valuable to send copies to friends and interested persons. Bulk orders are at the rate of 2s. 6d. per dozen.

H. F. M.

Circulation last week: 10,900.

Three years for the Red, White and Blue

Three Chinese, owners of small department stores in Bangkok (Siam) are to be questioned by the police for selling socks with the red, white and blue stripes of the Thai National Flag, because wearing of such socks is considered a degradation of the flag.

—*Bangkok Post, July* 14, 1953.

Why don't the soldiers shoot?

● Continued from Page 4

deal of space to the problem of the nonfirer. The book became a text for a half-dozen foreign armies, and our own Army incorporated some of his recommendations into its training programme. The problem continued to be discussed and analysed. And when the Korean war broke out, Marshall was dispatched to the front to study combat operations firsthand. Again he found the number of nonfirers to be disconcerting. He listed incident after incident in his official reports. One of the most dramatic described the fight at Karhyon Pass, a 6,700 yard gauntlet of death in which the Chinese trapped and destroyed half of the remnants of the 2nd Infantry Division in its retreat from the high-water mark of its advance into North Korea.

They responded to nothing

Marshall wrote: "In the pass, the dead lay in the ditches and sprawled across the roadway. Most of the living—even those still unwounded—were in such a state of shock that they responded to nothing . . . Chinese fire beat like hail . . . where they stood or reclined. But they neither cried out nor sought better cover . . .

"The division commander, Major General Laurence B. Keiser, walked among them, moving from group to group, barking questions, trying to startle them back to consciousness. One thing made his heart leap up. A sergeant from the 9th Infantry Regiment had taken an 81-mm. mortar from a ¼-ton truck, set it up in the middle of the bullet-spattered roadway, and was now, single-handed, firing the piece on line of sight against the Chinese positions atop the south exit to the pass. **It was the only fire that Keiser saw being delivered by an American.**"

General Marshall—sometimes conducting his group interrogations under enemy fire—discovered this strange, side-by-side combination of heroes and nonfirers existed both in Army and Marine Corps units, and in green and seasoned outfits alike. But in his official report for the Operations Research Office (a hush-hush group of high-level scientists who analyse battle procedures for the Army), he had some encouraging findings. He wrote:

"In the average infantry company in Korea, between 12 and 20 per cent of the men not only participate actively in the firing but exercise varying degrees of initiative . . . In addition . . . between 25 and 35 per cent of the men . . . take some part in the fire action with varying degrees of consistency . . . It is believed that this showing is a substantial improvement over the participation averages among World War II troops."

That still leaves an average of about 50 per cent of our combat men who do **not** fire or participate at all in a fire-fight. Why? A lot of good guesses can be made. But right now no one can say we know for sure. We are trying to find out. The Operations Research Office has teams of its best scientists in Korea to follow up Marshall's work on a more exact mathematical basis. But, meanwhile, the important consideration is to improve the situation, and the Army already has made some progress. Common-sense suggestions offered by General Marshall and other soldiers (including enlisted men) have helped.

(To be continued.)

★ DIARY ★

As this is a free service, we reserve the right to select for publication notices sent in. We nevertheless desire to make it as complete a service as we reasonably can, and therefore ask organisers of events to:

1. Send notices to arrive not later than Monday morning.

2. Include: Date, **TOWN**, Time, Place (hall, street); nature of event; speakers, organisers (and secretary's address)—preferably in that order and style.

ABBREVIATIONS: Anglican Pacifist Fellowship, APF; Fellowship of Reconciliation, FoR; Methodist Peace Fellowship, MPF; National Peace Council, NPC; Peace with Russia Council, PWC; Peace Pledge Union, PPU; Society of Friends, SoF.

August 22-29

HAVERHILL: "The Mount," Haverhill, Suffolk; FoR Youth Conference. "Focus on Peace." Speakers: John Hoyland, Leslie Jones, Clifford Macquire, Reginald Sorensen, FoR.

Saturday, August 22

CHESTER: 3 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho., Boughton Hall Cross St. Area mtg. 5 p.m. Tea 1s., 6 p.m. Public mtg.; Stuart Morris, "The Peace Movement in the USA." PPU.

Sunday, August 23

MANCHESTER: 3 p.m.; Platt Fields. Fred Barton, Lionel Cowan, Frank Robinson. Open-air anti-conscription campaign. United Peace Fellowship.

GLASGOW: 7.30 p.m.; Open-air meeting. Queens Park Gate. Every Sunday. PPU.

HYDE PARK: 6 p.m.; Speakers' Corner, Marble Arch. Open-air meeting. PPU.

Thursday, August 27

HEYTONSTONE: 8 p.m.; Friends' Meeting House, Bush Rd. John and Muriel Barnard.

LONDON, W.C.2: 12.30 p.m.; Lincoln's Inn Fields. Open-air meeting. Sybil Morrison and Robert Horniman. PPU.

Friday, August 28

GARDENA, CALIFORNIA: Spanish-American Institute, 15840 S. Figueroa. FoR National Conference. AFoR.

Sunday, August 30

BRISTOL DOWNS: 6.30 p.m. Hear Albert Waldron, every Sunday. PPU.

GLASGOW: 7.30 p.m.; Open-air meeting. Queens Park Gate. Every Sunday. PPU.

HYDE PARK: 6 p.m.; Speakers' Corner, Marble Arch. Open-air meeting. PPU.

Sunday, August 30

MANCHESTER: 3 p.m.; Platt Fields. Fred Barton, Lionel Cowan, Frank Robinson. Open-air anti-conscription campaign. United Peace Fellowship.

Thursday, September 3

LONDON, W.C.2: 12.30 p.m.; Lincoln's Inn Fields. Open-air meeting. Sybil Morrison and Robert Horniman. PPU.

Friday, September 4

LONDON, W.C.2: 1.30 p.m.; St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Intercession service for peace. Rev. Patrick Figgis. APF, FoR, PPU.

MANCHESTER: 7.30 p.m. Onward Hall, Deansgate. Debate on the Call-up: Pacifist view v Communist view. Fred Barton (Nat. Chairman, ILP), R. Nettleton (District Organiser, CP). Manchester United Peace Fellowship.

Saturday, September 5

LEIGHTON BUZZARD: 3.30 p.m.; Brookfield, Ivinghoe. Garden Meeting. Speaker: Rev. Dale. Bring and Buy Stall. Refreshments. PPU.

LOUGHBOROUGH: 3 p.m.; Finney Hill House, Ashby Rd., Shepshed. Garden Party. Bring and Buy Stall. Tickets, 1s. 6d. FoR, PPU.

MANCHESTER: 3 p.m. Friends Mtg. Ho., Mount St. March against War and the Call-up proceeding to Blitzed Site, Deansgate. Open-air mtg. Sybil Morrison, Fred Barton. Manchester United Peace Fellowship.

Sunday, September 6

BRISTOL DOWNS: 6.30 p.m. Hear Albert Waldron, every Sunday. PPU.

GLASGOW: 7.30 p.m.; Open-air meeting. Queens Park Gate. Every Sunday. PPU.

HYDE PARK: 6 p.m.; Speakers' Corner, Marble Arch. Open-air meeting. PPU.

Monday, September 7

HAMPSTEAD: 8 p.m. 12 Downside Cres., N.W.3. Gwen Hill, London Healing Mission. "The Healing of the Nations." FoR.

INVITATION

The meetings announced in "Notes for your diary," are open to all; they are not confined to members of the organisations sponsoring them nor to pacifists. Some of the meetings are in large halls, some in small rooms in private houses; they are organised by groups of people who want the support of those concerned with the preservation of peace. YOU will be made welcome.

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DISPLAYED ADVERTISEMENTS are required by the Thursday eight days prior to publication.

MEETINGS

INTERNATIONAL CLUB, Bath. Every Tuesday, 7.30 p.m. Royal Literary and Scientific Institute, 18 Queen Square, Bath. All welcome.

KING'S WEIGH House Church, Duke St., nr. Bond St. Tube. Sunday at 7 p.m. The Gospel of Peace. Rev. Claud M. Coltman, MA, B.Litt.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED AND OFFERED

DERBYSHIRE HILLS. Beautiful walking country, happy fellowship, restful comfort. Send for particulars. Ronald and Marguerite Heymans, The Friars Vegetarian Guest House, Crich, nr. Matlock. Ambergate 44.

FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP, lovely country, good accommodation are found at Royhill Holiday Centre, Blackboys, Uckfield, Sussex. Write Rev. Arthur Peacock. Charge £4 5s. per week.

HASTINGS. OAKHURST Hotel, The Ridge. Tel. 515411. Beautiful extensive grounds. Sun lounges, tennis, putting, badminton. Happy atmosphere and excellent food. You'll enjoy yourself at Oakhurst. Meat or vegetarian menu. Brochure.

HOMELY ACCOMMODATION and jolly good food to visitors and permanent guests. CANonbury 1340. I. and H. Shayler, 27 Hamilton Park, N.5.

AGM DELEGATE recommends Shayler for board or bed and breakfast.

HIGHGATE VILLAGE, N.6. Accommodation only 6s. 6d. nightly, until mid-Sept. Also vacant shortly furnished room, 37s. 6d. with facilities. MOU. 6471. Box No. 505.

PERSONAL

AUBREY BROCKLEHURST, watchmaker, offers a good selection of new watches with genuine guarantees and conscientious service. Postal enquiries welcomed; articles sent on appro. High-grade watch, clock and jewellery repairs. 6 Endsleigh St., W.C.1. Tel. EUSton 5501.

END CONSCRIPTION. Helpers wanted urgently. No Conscription Council offices. Kings X CER. 3910).

INTRODUCTIONS. PEN friends, companionship or marriage. V.C.C., 34 Honeywell Rd., London, S.W.11.

YOUNG MAN, 26, tradesman, starting own business, wishes to meet young woman. Box 501.

LITERATURE

QUAKERISM. Information and literature respecting the Faith and Practice of the Religious Society of Friends, free on application to the Friends' Home Service Committee, Friends' House, Euston Rd., London.

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MISCELLANEOUS

REGINALD BAILEY, Naturopath and psychiatrist. 134 Hoppers Rd., N.21. Palmers Green 9868. By appt.

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AFRICA MUST SEEK A NEW ROAD

EVENTS in Africa are beginning to reveal a significant tendency in African thought.

No longer are African aspirations directed to a mere imitation of Western industrial civilisation. More and more the people of that Continent are coming to the realisation that the salvation of Africa lies not along the road trodden so ingloriously by the society of the West (including Russia).

The development of new patterns of thought and social organisation based on human values is the task towards which men like Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, Prime Minister of the Gold Coast, are urging the people.

During his speech on the Motion for Gold Coast Independence delivered to the Legislative Assembly in July last, Dr. Nkrumah spoke as follows :

"THE strands of history have brought our two countries (Britain and the Gold Coast) together. We have provided much material benefit to the British people, and they in turn have taught us many good things. We want to continue to learn from them the best they can give us and we hope that they will find in us qualities worthy of emulation.

"In our daily lives we may lack those material comforts regarded as essential by the standards of the modern world, because so much of our wealth is still locked up in our land; but we have the gifts of laughter and joy, a love of music, a lack of malice, an absence of the desire for vengeance for our wrongs, all things of intrinsic worth in a world sick of injustice, revenge, fear and want.

Self-government not an end

"We feel that there is much the world can learn from those of us who belong to what we might term the pre-technological societies. These are values which we must not sacrifice unheedingly in pursuit of material progress. That is why we say that self-government is not an end in itself.

"We have to work hard to evolve new patterns, new social customs, new attitudes to life, so that while we seek the material, cultural and economic advancement of our country, while we raise the standard of life, we shall not sacrifice our fundamental happiness. That I should say, Mr. Speaker, has been the greatest tragedy of Western society since the industrial revolution.

Man the slave of the machine

"In harnessing the forces of nature, man has become the slave of the machine, and of his own greed. If we repeat these mistakes and suffer the consequences which have overtaken those that made them, we shall have no excuse. This is a field of exploration for the young men and women now in our schools and colleges, for our sociologists and economists, for our doctors and social welfare workers, for our engineers and town planners, for our scientists and our philosophers.

A society of peace

"Mr. Speaker, when we politicians have long passed away and been forgotten, it is upon their shoulders that will fall the responsibility of evolving new forms of social institutions, new economic instruments to help build in our rich and fertile country a society where men and women may live in peace, where hate, strife, envy and greed shall have no place.

"But, Mr. Speaker, we can only meet the challenge of our age as a free people. Hence our demand for our freedom, for only free men can shape the destinies of their future."

Bishop warns scientists

SCIENTISTS today are in a subdued mood, about the future, the Bishop of Truro (Cornwall) told boys at St. Austell Grammar School recently, because they know that what they have in their hands is of astonishing potency, not only for good but for evil.

"I want to suggest to your minds that real progress is something more than an increase in scientific technique.

"We all believe that, but it is so very easy to be carried away. We are in the predicament of the tool becoming a weapon of destruction, and the only way we can save ourselves from it is to use tools as tools, not as weapons. That is the warning of our time."

YES

Russians meet Quakers in Sweden

THE Friend reports that four Russian Baptists from the Soviet Union and five representatives of British and American Friends have been staying in Sweden as guests of Swedish Quakers.

In company with six Swedish Friends they have visited schools, farms, co-operatives, industrial plants, and other places of interest in Sweden. The meetings have been private and informal, and their purpose has been to seek, under the guidance of God, and in a spirit of Christian fellowship, for greater understanding. There have been frank and friendly discussions about the tension between East and West, and consideration has been given to certain practical tasks by which Christians in Russia and the West can co-operate together in the cause of true peace for mankind.

The participants agreed to report in their own countries on the cordial sense of purpose and concern which characterised the conversations, and to discuss further the measures needed to achieve the common aim of lasting peace in the world.

The participants were:

SOVIET UNION.—Alexei Andreyev, Mikhail Galayev, Alexander Karev, Alexei Karpov.
SWEDEN.—Herman Backman, Signe Fredholm, Birgit Lundeburg, Jan Lundeburg, Gunnar Sundberg, Lena Sundberg.
GREAT BRITAIN.—Sydney D. Bailey, Philip D. Priestman.
USA.—Thomas Harvey, Russell Johnson, Justice Williams.

NO

Young Russians "too busy to come"

YOUNG British Quakers who have been trying for two years to get attendance of Russian youth at summer work camp projects in England, have again met with a refusal—but couched in friendly language.

The Anti-Fascist Committee of Soviet Youth replied that young people in the Soviet Union were busy with other activities, but added: "We wish you, dear friends, success in your work."

(WP).

THE BATTLE OF THE BELLIGERENTS

SYBIL MORRISON

The other agreed resolution would "salute the heroic soldiers of the Republic of Korea and of all those countries which sent armed forces to her assistance" and would pay tribute "to all those who died in resisting aggression and thus in upholding the cause of freedom."

—Report of Agenda for UN General Assembly August 16, 1953.

He (Syngman Rhee) made it perfectly plain on the most solemn public occasion available that he has in no way changed his convictions, and that he still regards outright war as the only possible solution to the problems of his country.

—The Observer, August 16, 1953.

THROUGHOUT the centuries peoples of different races, and different religious creeds, have been indoctrinated with the belief that in any dispute or disagreement between nations it may be necessary, and even advantageous, to resort to war as the final arbiter.

That decisions of international consequence can be made, not by research, evidence, discussion and argument, but by a trial of strength is a doctrine that has been accepted for centuries as a means to an end.

Even the Churches of Christendom, despite the gospel of peace preached and practised by their Founder, have managed to justify the arbitrament of war, and have sent forth to do battle, boys and men, tanks, warships and bombers with their blessing, while praying to God for victory.

It should not, therefore, be a matter for any great surprise or consternation if there are men and nations who still believe in a victorious war as a righteous undertaking. The "unconditional surrender" slogan may echo sinisterly in the ears of some who now clearly see the ghastly result of that tragic and inept policy, but plainly there are others who are deaf to its implications and blind to its consequences.

★

That both sides in the Korean conflict could have used means, both politically and strategically, so to widen the battlefield that there could have been no alternative but the fearful Armegeddon of a third world war and yet refrained, is a matter of thankfulness to all, with the exception apparently of the President of South Korea.

Yet this is the man whom the United Nations decided to support against the alleged aggression of the North Koreans, a man, whose profound conviction is that "outright war" can settle the problems of a country already ruined and destroyed by war.

He seems to be unaware of the fact that 'outright war" today means atom and hydrogen bombs, and perhaps worse; that it means dealing out death and disease and dreadful mutilations, as well as almost total destruction of the means of survival.

To believe that modern war can achieve anything but absolute disaster for both sides indicates a complete bankruptcy in mental processes, let alone in morals, or conscience.

The war in Korea is constantly referred to as "limited," as opposed, it is to be assumed, to "outright," but the threat of widening it has not come only from Syngman Rhee, and the atmosphere in which the United Nations Assembly is about to meet seems very far removed from a peaceful one.

★

The United Nations, because it has based itself so-called "collective security" on collective arms and armies, is now on the verge of quarrelling as to which nations shall call themselves "United" and which "Communist." Forgetting that "collective" is not a word synonymous with "equality," some United States spokesmen are indignant because the U.S. has contributed more men for the Korean battle than all the other nations put together. This fact seems to give Senator Taft's successor, Senator Knowland, the impetus to bawl at the world at large, that "the day Communist China goes in to the United Nations, the United States come out."

The war, in fact, has not made one jot of difference to the political and ideological intransigence of both sides in the dispute. When United Nations was first inaugurated only "belligerents" in the second world war were admitted; in fact a nation had to fight to gain a place in its Councils! Yet, it often happens that in the heat and anger of conflict, calmness and commonsense are lost, and a mediator, to stand betwen the straining combatants, is the paramount necessity.

Today there has never been so great a need for the tranquil wisdom of some one person or nation, who would be "above the battle." It is to be hoped that some such mediation may yet be possible among these nations who pride themselves on belligerency, for peace will only come when nations unite to pursue it without war.

New treasurer for CO Board

THE new Treasurer of the Central Board for Conscientous Objectors is Wallace Hancock. Wallace Hancock, has been until recently the Financial Secretary of the No Conscription Council since its inception. He is a Quaker and recently took an active part in the formation of the Standing Joint Pacifist Committee of which he is Secretary. His appointment should therefore maintain the strong links between the Board and the Peace Organisations.

The appointment comes at a time of some anxiety, as the C.B.C.O. has now exhausted its financial reserves because of the extra work which it has undertaken in connection with the help and advice it has placed at the disposal of the "Z" reservists, and the steadily increasing numbers of conscientious objectors.

Its report is due shortly and should be sympathetically considered by readers. Copies will be obtainable from 6 Endsleigh St., W.C.1.

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THE YOUTH FESTIVAL AT BUCHAREST

By Francis Rona

FOR two weeks Bucharest was the cultural centre of the largest youth movement in the world: over 80 million were represented by nearly 40,000 delegates from 116 countries. About 250,000 Rumanian youth, radiating joy and superb hospitality, gathered there to welcome them.

Participation in the Festival meant the opening of the gate to the "promised land" for these young people, whether they believed in Marxism or not. All the oppressed coloured races experienced there not just racial equality but "Colonialism in reverse" the active assistance of "white" delegates on their way to social emancipation and cultural ascension—towards the realisation of brotherhood.

Walking through the streets, filled with happy people, one felt optimistic about the coming of the "realm of peace on earth" in which the nations will show friendship towards each other and happiness in being helpful. The houses were decorated with flags and posters; shops and trams showed peace slogans and Picasso's dove.

The two words "Pace si Prietenie"—Peace and Friendship—have become well known to every delegate.

RUMANIA AND HUNGARY'S WELCOME

During the journey through Hungary a hearty welcome, with music and refreshments, was offered to the delegates by the local population where the train stopped. Most of the participants in our group, about 130 British, 200 Swiss, 80 Dutch, a few French and Italians, jumped down to shake hands, to sing and to dance with the young people, with workers and peasants.

In Rumania we had about ten peace meetings while stopping, and these made a deep impression on every delegate. Groups of youth organisations sang the "peace song of youth," women with children, workers and old folk were happy to see foreigners coming to assure them of friendship.

It is not likely that a country with aggressive intentions would call the whole population to demonstrate for peace. Nor would foreign delegates be received with such a tremendous enthusiasm as they were in Rumania.

At the opening of the Youth Festival, in the Stadium for 80,000 people, about half a million people waited on the streets to shake hands with the delegates. The Rumanians repeated the calls in foreign languages: "vive la paix," "peace and friendship." The buses of the delegates could hardly move because of the crowds.

CULTURAL CO-OPERATION

No peace demonstrations of such dimensions have taken place in Western Europe. As the maintenance of peace is the common aim of Conservatives and Labour, Pacifists, Liberals and Communists, the organisation of a Peace Festival should find wide-spread popular support in Britain.

The main purpose of the Festival is to promote mutual understanding of cultural values by providing a large number of concerts, gala-programmes, dances, exhibitions, film shows and other cultural activities.

International programmes, combining artists of different nations, as well as sports, also strengthen friendly relationships and thus serve the cause of peace.

In no country has such an outstanding and diversified cultural programme been shown as in Bucharest. The limited number of tickets had to be apportioned between the delegations, and thousands had to try again and again to see the most attractive programmes given by Russians, Chinese, Hungarians, Mongolians, Poles, and others, including ballet, folk dances and music.

Over 1,000 buses were used for transport of the guests. The organisation was excellent.

DISCUSSIONS OF DELEGATIONS

Apart from presenting cultural programmes, contacts between delegations were established through visits and the arrangement of discussions.

The British delegation, about 1,300, decided to meet representatives from British Colonies and the youth of Russia, China, Rumania, France and Germany. At the meeting, after the election of the functionaries (4 dissenting votes) Mrs. Monica Felton addressed the British delegation and was received with great enthusiasm. It was suggested that the next World Youth Festival, in two years time, should be held in Britain, but the possibilities and difficulties are still to be considered.

The first discussion of the British delegation was held with the West African group, who came in their national costumes. Their spokesman gave some useful points about racial relations: the negro population dislike a "patronising attitude" by the "whites" and wish to be treated as human beings without discrimination.

The British delegates assured their support for the peoples in the Colonies in their struggle for political and economic emancipation.

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